



Military-Connected

Teacher/Counselor/Parent Resources

Military kids face unique stresses and challenges—from frequent moves to parent deployments—that can place them at greater risk for academic struggles. Studies show that educators who understand these issues can create a welcoming environment for these students. Below is a list of resources for you to assist your military-connected students and their families.

FOR EDUCATORS

Department of Defense Education Activity - The Department of Defense Educational Partnership Directorate has launched a new website focused on providing information that directly relates to the work of educators and administrators in military connected school systems. www.militaryk12partners.dodea.edu/ 703-588-3272

DoDEA Partnership: Students At The Center - Interactive educational resource for military families, military leaders and school leaders. The resource, "Students at the Center," provides information on important policies, procedures, and best practices that are critical to supporting the needs of military families' education. <http://www.militaryk12partners.dodea.edu/studentsAtTheCenter/>

Growing the Military Child Brochure – is a Fort Meade-based resource guide for teachers to assist service members and their families in finding the guidance and support they need to connect with their new school and community. Fort Meade's Military School Liaison serves as the primary contact for school-related matters and would welcome the opportunity to forge partnerships between the military and schools supporting families with a service member stationed at Fort Meade. <http://ofgbtob.com/digital/FMA/growing-the-military-child/mobile/index.html#p=1>

The Military Child Education Coalition - This organization provides training and resources to aid in developing support systems for military children and youth within the public school system. They have a wide variety of outstanding resources that view military children issues from the Guard and Reserve perspective as well as that of the active duty families. <http://www.militarychild.org/>

MCEC has developed a series of [8 TedEd interactive lessons](#) designed to support youth-serving professionals, parents, and highly mobile military and civilian students to

become college and career ready. Each lesson includes a short video, an in-depth content area, discussion forum and brief assessment of understanding.

Military Child Initiative - Johns Hopkins Web Course, "Building Resilient Kids", is a course for school administrators, support staff and teachers to help all students meet life's challenges with resilience, focusing primarily on students from military families. http://www.jhsph.edu/research/centers-and-institutes/military-child-initiative/training_course/index.html

Military Impacted Schools Association - Military Impacted Schools Association (MISA) is a national organization representing school districts that serve high concentrations of military children. The organization works to provide a continuum of quality education for all military children. MISA works on funding (Impact Aid) legislation, partnerships, and programs for military families. <http://militaryimpactedschoolsassociation.org/>

Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission – (MIC3) website is designed to better inform the public about the Interstate Compact for Educational Opportunities for Military Children and serve the needs of the families of our service men and women. The Compact seeks to make transition easier for the children of military families so that they are afforded the same opportunities for educational success as other children and are not penalized or delayed in achieving their educational goals.

The Compact provides for the uniform treatment of military children transferring between school districts and states. It was developed by The Council of State Governments' National Center for Interstate Compacts, the Department of Defense, national associations, federal and state officials, the Department of Education of each state, school administrators and military families. www.mic3.net

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EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS

The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) is the largest international professional organization dedicated to improving the educational success of individuals with disabilities and/or gifts and talents. CEC advocates for appropriate governmental policies, sets professional standards, provides professional development, advocates for individuals with exceptionalities, and helps professionals obtain conditions and resources necessary for effective professional practice. www.cec.sped.org

Learning Disabilities Online - LD Online is the leading website on learning disabilities and ADHD. Parents and teachers of learning disabled children will find helpful articles, multimedia, expert articles, a comprehensive resource guide, and a referral directory for professionals and schools. www.ldonline.org

NECTAC is the national early childhood technical assistance center supported by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs. NECTAC serves all 50 states and 10 jurisdictions with an array of services and supports to improve service systems and outcomes for infants, toddlers, and preschool aged children with special needs and their families. www.nectac.org

FOR PARENTS

Childcare – Get help finding and paying for childcare. Army fee assistance is available through Childcare Aware.

<http://usa.childcareaware.org/fee-assistancerespice/military-families/army/>

Free Homework Help for Military Children - Tutor.com for U.S. Military Families provides free, personalized 24/7 online academic support to military-connected children. This Department of Defense-funded program is provided at no cost to grades K-12 children in National Guard, Reserve and Active Duty military families, regardless of the service member's deployment status. www.tutor.com/military 800-411-1970

Free Spirit Books - kid-friendly information that addresses the real-life issues students face. <https://www.freespirit.com/>

Khan Academy - A personalized learning resource for all ages. It offers practice exercises, instructional videos, and a personalized learning dashboard that empower learners to study at their own pace in and outside of the classroom. It includes math, science, computer programming, history, art history, economics, and more. Our math missions guide learners from kindergarten to calculus using state-of-the-art, adaptive technology that identifies strengths and learning gaps. <https://www.khanacademy.org>

The National Military Family Association - NMFA, "The Voice for Military Families," is dedicated to providing information to and representing the interests of family members of the uniformed services. In addition to information on deployment, education, family life and health care, NMFA provides valuable links to other useful sites designed to give you the latest information available. They have a "Back to School" section which includes many links to valuable information on education for students and parents. www.nmfa.org 703-931-6632

Sesame Street for Military Families: Transitions - When parents transition, so do kids. It's a new adventure and all adventure stories have a hero. They also have ups

and downs. But with the help of caring adults, your little hero can find the strength to "go with the flow" -- and have fun along the way. Sign up for the Adventure Campaign for fun activities, multimedia materials, and strategies to help you engage with your child as you navigate change together. www.sesamestreet.org/toolkits/veterans

Student Online Achievement Resources - SOAR is an innovative program that makes it easy for parents to play an active role in their children's education. SOAR is designed for military families, and is easily accessible worldwide. Students take an assessment aligned to state standards, and SOAR directs them to individualized tutorials to improve skills where needed. www.soarathome.org

United Through Reading – helps ease the stress of separation for military families by having service members who are separated from the children they love read children's books aloud on video for the child to watch at home.
www.unitedthroughreading.org/military-program

YMCA Art and Essay Contest - Launched in November, the annual Armed Services YMCA Art & Essay Contest allows children to express their love, appreciation and admiration for their military heroes and for our country. Entries for the art contest depict the theme, "My Military Family," while the essay's theme is "My Military Hero."
<https://www.asymca.org/art-and-essay-contest>

HEALTH and WELLNESS SUPPORT

AfterDeployment.org - Behavioral health resource supporting service members, their families and veterans with common post-deployment challenges. Provide selfcare solutions targeting post-traumatic stress, depression, and other behavioral health challenges. Chat online with consultants.
<http://afterdeployment.dcoe.mil/> 1-866-966-1020

Coaching Into Care - provides assistance to family members and friends trying to encourage their veteran to seek health care for possible readjustment and mental health issues. www.mirecc.va.gov/coaching/ 1-888-823-7458

FOCUS World - is an interactive, online educational tool that helps military families become stronger in the face of challenges by providing both parents and kids a fun place to learn and practice important skills, such as emotional regulation – understanding and managing feelings; goal setting – working together as a family to achieve something important to you; communication - listening and responding to each other's concerns, including those related to deployment and reintegration.
www.focusworld.org

Give An Hour - Provides free mental health services for individuals who served in Iraq and Afghanistan, and their families. www.giveanhour.org

Military Kids Connect – Ready to go lesson plans to use in the classroom on core curriculum subjects, character education and world cultures and is broken down into 3 age groups. Learn about military culture, helping students cope, etc. and hear experienced educators talk about their work with military students. An online community for military kids, **Military Kids Speak Out**, allows kids to de-stress and connect with other military kids their age. <http://militarykidsconnect.dcoe.mil/>

Military One Source - Designed to help with life's issues, this is a 24/7 site that is rich with resources on almost any topic. They can locate counseling services that will provide 6 free sessions per issue and will also provide a one hour session assisting with applications for your college bound student. They provide a tremendous variety of free written and audio visual material. <http://www.militaryonesource.mil/>

Military Teens on the Move - is a site designed with military youth in mind and covers topics sorted by age level to include deployment and moving to a new location. www.defenselink.mil/mtom

Mind Yeti - Guided mindfulness sessions to help kids calm down, focus their attention, and get ready for whatever's next. <https://www.mindyeti.com/>

National Center for Telehealth & Technology (t2health) – a leader mobile health and telehealth solutions that delivers psychological health and traumatic brain injury care and support to our nation's warriors, veterans and their families
<http://www.t2health.dcoe.mil/> Download the **Military Culture Educator Training Kit**

Pro Bono Counseling - Offers counseling services to service members and their families. Clinicians are trained on the unique needs of military culture.
www.probonocounseling.org 410-825-1001 877-323-5800

The Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinic at Easterseals provides high-quality, accessible, and integrated behavioral health care to veterans and their families or caregivers. No or low-cost services are available to any person who has served in the U.S. Armed Forces, including the National Guard and Reserves, regardless of role or discharge status. They will also help connect veteran families to community resources and services, as necessary.

The Cohen Clinic uses evidence-based practices with a holistic approach to improve the quality of life for veterans and their families. Services are provided by trained and credentialed staff. Veterans and their family members are able to receive services individually and as a family unit at the same place with the same treatment team.
Silver Spring, MD info.mfc@eseal.org 240- 847-7500

STOMP – Specialized Training of Military Parents - is the only National Parent Training and Information Center for military families providing support and advice to military families with individuals with disabilities without regard of the type of medical condition their child has.

<http://wapave.org/programs/specialized-training-military-parents-stomp/>

Teen Central - is a website powered by KidsPeace as a free and safe prevention and intervention resource specifically for youth seeking information on a variety of topics. Teens can also submit a story or post about any crisis, problem or situation they are struggling with and receive a therapeutic support response within 24 hours, safely, anonymously, and free of charge. <http://www.teencentral.com/>

Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS) – provides a number of resources and programs for survivors, to include seminars, youth programs, retreats, expeditions, Inner Warrior, peer mentors, suicide loss survivor program, teams4taps, online community and care groups. <https://www.taps.org/>

Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program - is a veteran's reintegration program to provide National Guard and Reserve members and their families with sufficient information, services, referral, and proactive outreach opportunities throughout the entire deployment cycle. Members and their families should contact the person within their unit responsible for the program.

<http://www.yellowribbon.mil/yrrp/> 866-504-7092

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www.howardcountymd.gov/veterans